

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method of rendering text in an image forming device comprising:

- a. receiving a page description language (PDL) file for imaging, said PDL file including said text and a text size value;
- b. providing a user-specified font sharpening threshold, said user-specified font sharpening threshold being a separate value from said text size value;
- c. overriding a previously established font sharpening threshold and substituting said user-defined font sharpening threshold;
- d. comparing said text size value to said user-defined font sharpening threshold;
- e. determining whether a halftone screen is to be used for said text based on an outcome of said comparison; and
- f. rendering said text with or without said halftone screen based on said outcome of said comparison.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein rendering said text with said halftone screen comprises selecting a halftone screen with a relatively higher halftone frequency when the text size value is less than the user-specified font sharpening threshold, and selecting a halftone screen with a relatively lower halftone frequency when the text size value is greater than the user-specified font sharpening threshold.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A printing system comprising:

- a. a user interface for entering a user-specified font sharpening threshold;
- b. a raster image processor for generating a halftone image from a digital representation of objects to be printed, said objects including text and said digital representation including a text size value separate from said user-specified font sharpening threshold, said raster image processor programmed to render said text using a halftone screen with a halftone frequency selected based on overriding a previously established font sharpening threshold with said user-specified font sharpening threshold and performing a comparison of the text size value with said user-specified font sharpening threshold input by said user via said user interface; and
- c. a raster output device operatively connected to the raster image processor to generate a visible output image using the halftone image output by the raster image processor.

6. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 5 wherein the user interface comprises an operator panel to receive user input specifying the font sharpening threshold.

7. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 5 wherein the raster output device is an electrophotographic print engine.